

Library

URBAN DISTRICT OF WHITTLESEY.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1952



-----oOo-----

To: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Annual Report for the year 1952 together with the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

I have much pleasure in recording that Mr. Scott, has worked arduously and well in his various duties.

I have the pleasure to be,
Your obedient servant,

D.C.LOGAN

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	23,362
Number of Inhabited Houses	2,561
Rateable Value (at 31.12.52)	£29,586
Product of ld. rate (at 31.3.52)	£120.5s.11d.
Population (Registrar General's figures)	8,600

Chairman of the Council.

Mr. T. W. Anthony

Vice-Chairman.

Mr. T. Richardson

Public Health Committee.

Chairman:

Mr. F. Newman

Members:

Mr. E. A. G. Brantom
Mr. C. Canham
Mr. C. Dale
Mr. F. J. Fletcher
Mr. C. A. Jacobs
Mr. F. J. Langford
Mr. R. McCarthy
Mr. T. Richardson
Mr. E. W. Rose
Mr. A. B. Saunders
Mrs. I. M. Turner.

Officers of the Whittlesey Urban District Council

Medical Officer of Health:

D. C. Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

W. Scott, M.R.San.I. M.S.I.A.

Meat Inspector:

J. H. Poles, M.R.C.V.S.

Offices of the Urban District Council:

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
6 Delph Street,
WHITTLESEY.

Telephone No. Whittlesey 3144

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	63	70	133
Illegitimate	2	2	4
Total :	<u>65.</u>	<u>72.</u>	<u>137.</u>

Live Birth Rate-

Whittlesey Urban District - per 1,000 estimated population 15.9.
England and Wales - per 1,000 estimated population 15.3.

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total :	<u>2.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>4.</u>

Stillbirth Rate -

Whittlesey Urban District-per 1,000 total (live and still) births 27.2
England and Wales -per 1,000 total (live and still) births 22.6

The stillbirth rate is higher than the rate for England and Wales. The total number of stillbirths was four. In two cases the mother was suffering from a degree of toxæmia of pregnancy and it is considered that this was probably the cause of the prenatal deaths. In another case a premature labour was followed by the birth of a macerated foetus weighing 3lbs. 10z. The health of the mother throughout pregnancy had been good. No factor to account for the stillbirth was found in the investigation carried out before or after the confinement.

In the fourth case a normal pregnancy in a healthy mother terminated in her developing measles which was at its height during the birth of the child which was born in a state of pallid asphyxia from which all efforts to revive it were unsuccessful.

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total :	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>

Infant Mortality Rate -

Whittlesey Urban District - per 1,000 Live Births 21.89.
England and Wales - per 1,000 Live Births 27.6

Once again it is a pleasure to record that the Infant Mortality Rate is below the average for the country as a whole. Of the total of three deaths which occurred none were preventable; one was due to extreme prematurity (birth weight 2lbs. 4ozs.) and the other two to congenital abnormalities incompatible with survival.

DEATHS (ALL CAUSES)

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
42	31	73

Death Rate -

Whittlesey Urban District - per 1,000 estimated population 8.48
England and Wales - per 1,000 estimated population 11.3

Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied by the Registrar General for 1952:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory.	-	-
Tuberculosis, other.	-	-
Syphilitic disease.	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections.	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis.	-	-
Measles.	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	10	4
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	-
Diabetes.	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	3	8
Coronary disease, angina.	3	3
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	-
Other heart disease.	6	11
Other circulatory disease	3	-
Influenza.	-	-
Pneumonia.	2	-
Bronchitis.	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate.	2	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-
Congenital malformations.	2	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	3	-
Motor Vehicle accidents.	1	-
All other accidents.	-	1
Suicide.	1	-
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-
Total :	42	31

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during 1952:-

Pneumonia	-	24
Scarlet Fever	-	12
Measles	-	110
Whooping Cough	-	107
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	-	14
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-
Polio myelitis	-	-
Erysipelas	-	2
Meningococcal Infection	-	1
Total:		261

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The work of immunisation of children against whooping cough and diphtheria has been carried out at Doctors' surgeries, the Infant Welfare Centres and at schools.

While the protection given by the diphtheria fraction is very good, that given by the whooping cough fraction is much less spectacular although it definitely affords some measure of protection as evidenced by the milder nature of the disease in immunised children. Parents are urged to have their children immunised when they reach the age of six months.

TUBERCULOSIS

Fourteen new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been reported during the year; six more than last year; little time now elapses before the patients can be admitted to Sanatoria to start their treatment.

The following table gives details of Infectious Diseases notified during 1952:-

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1952

AGE	PNEUMONIA		SCARLET FEVER		MEASLES		WHOOPING COUGH		TUBERCULOSIS		DIPHTHERIA		ERYSIPELAS		MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
UNDER 1 YEAR	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 YEARS	4	3	2	-	29	39	21	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 YEARS	6	5	6	4	22	14	20	29	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15 YEARS	2	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 YEARS	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	1
25 - 35 YEARS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 50 YEARS	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
50 - 65 YEARS	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
OVER 65 YEARS	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :-	19	16	8	4	55	55	45	62	8	7	-	-	-	2	-	1

HOUSING.

Number of Houses erected during 1952:-

1.	By Local Authority	-	14
2.	By Private Enterprise	-	11
Total :			<u>25</u>

GENERAL.

The spacious layout of the houses built on the Victory Avenue/ Coronation Avenue Housing Estate with their ample gardens back and front with tree lined pavements is a very welcome sight and gives pleasant and dignified surroundings to householders.

What a contrast this quiet, well ordered neighbourhood offers to the houses surrounding the Market Place when the Fair is present. There are no spacious front gardens here to keep the Amusement Stallholders at a decent distance and in many cases noisy machines are parked within a few feet of living accommodation.

To move the Fair to a site on the outskirts of the town would be more in keeping with the spirit of the times, would make easier shopping for housewives, remove a menace to car drivers and eliminate a recurring nuisance to householders round the Market Place.

CESSPOOL, PRIVY VAULT AND PAIL CLOSET WORK.

This is done by a private contractor. Many complaints were received throughout the year, of delay in dealing with this work.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There were three Common Lodging Houses registered at the beginning of the year.

The Local Inspector of Police is the lodging house Inspector for this area, and in his monthly reports to the Council he expressed satisfaction with the condition of these premises.

WATER SUPPLY.

Approximately 2,402 houses in the area have a piped water supply available.

During the year 60 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and 5 for chemical; the results obtained were satisfactory. The water is obtained from Peterborough.

The results of the chemical analysis and a copy of a bacteriological analysis taken at random are re-produced below:-

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water labelled "No. 2. 111 Coronation Avenue, Whittlesey" received on the 22nd February 1952 from Mr. W. Scott, Whittlesey Urban District Council.

Physical Characters.....Good
Reaction.....pH 7.4

<u>The Sample Contained:-</u>	<u>parts per 100,000</u>
Chlorine	2.8
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	0.0010
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0006
Oxygen absorbed in 3hrs. at 37° C	0.0363
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.02
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous metals	absent
Total Hardness	27.4.

BACTERIOLOGICAL TEST.

Coliform organisms absent in 20 mls.

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

INFERENCE

The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a fairly hard water containing little organic matter and free from metallic contamination.

25th February 1952. (Signed) S.Greenburgh (Analyst)

"PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE"

WATER BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT.

Authority or Sender: Whittlesey U.D.C. Mr. Scott.
Lab: Ref: No. PH. 1853.
Nature of Sample: Water taken from standpipe at
Thoroughfare Lane, Whittlesey.
Date & Hour of Collection: 8.9.52. 3 p.m.
Date & Hour of Arrival: 8.9.52.
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C -
0 per 100 ml.

No streptococci found in 10cc.
This water is satisfactory.

11.9.52. (Signed) C.B.Gilmore.

COMPLAINTS.

157 complaints were dealt with during the year; the main subjects of complaint were, nuisances, dustbins, housing matters, drainage and public cleansing work.

STATUTORY NOTICES ISSUED.

To provide water-closet	7
To provide dustbin	22

INFORMAL NOTICES ISSUED.

House repair	23
Dustbin provision	41
Drainage	13
Nuisance	26
Dirty and verminous houses	4

PRIVY CONVERSION

Throughout the year a drive was maintained to rid the town of its remaining privies. Generally speaking, owners of property realised the need for conversion and carried out the work on request. In five cases Statutory Notices had to be served. 37 privies were converted to water closets and it is hoped that the end of next year will find this type of sanitary accommodation a memory only, in Whittlesey.

SEWERAGE

The work of providing sewers in the village of Coates and Eastrea continues slowly.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The work of refuse collection was carried out fairly satisfactorily during the year, bearing in mind the fact that our solitary vehicle and crew have to deal with 2400 houses.

The town of Whittlesey has a weekly collection, the villages of Coates and Eastrea a collection every ten days, and Blackbush, Pondersbridge, Eldernell and Turves are visited once monthly.

The disposal of refuse takes place at New Road, Whittlesey, the method being controlled tipping. The work was carried out satisfactorily during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, we have on our Register:-

2 Distributors

2 Dairies

1 Distributor holding a "Dealers" Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk

1 Distributor holding "Supplementary" Licences to sell "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" Milk.

1 Distributor holding a "Supplementary" Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested milk.

Ninety samples of milk were submitted to the analyst at Peterborough Memorial Hospital, thirteen being considered unsatisfactory.

Six specimens of ungraded milk submitted for the biological test for tubercle were all proved negative.

Notifications of unsatisfactory samples was made to the Area Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, immediately on receipt of the analyst's report.

FOOD INSPECTION

In no case was it found necessary to make any seizure of diseased or unsound food. The main work in this department was the issue of certificates of unsound food-stuffs mostly blown and rusted cans, voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers.

SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT INSPECTION

The duty for the inspection of meat in the shops is placed in the hands of Mr. J. H. Poles, Meat Inspector.

The slaughtering for the town is carried out at Peterborough.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948

Inspections made (under the Factories Act)
for 1952.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections, 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	21	13	1	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced.	43	17	2	-
Other Premises.	5	5	1	-
TOTAL:	69	35	4	-

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Closet Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	-	1	-
TOTAL:	4	4	-	1	-

